

Remarks


Favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Following the amendments, claims 1-17 are pending in the application, with claim 1 being in independent format.

The specification has been amended to include the headings required under US practice. Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9-13 and 16 have been amended in order to clarify the claim language and to conform the claims to US practice. Newly added claim 17 is drawn to subject matter previously recited in amended claim 1.

It is urged that support for all the above amendments may be found throughout the specification as originally filed. Applicants further submit that the above amendments are not being made for reasons of patentability and therefore do not give rise to prosecution history estoppel.

Early consideration and allowance of the amended application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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